Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAM-01 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 OPR-02

/165 W

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O 071425Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6699

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE
CINCLANT FOR POLAD PRIORITY
COMCARIBSEAFRON

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 028

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GJ

SUBK: GRENADA BECOMES INDEPENDENT

REF: BTN 215

PANAMA FOR KUBISCH

SUMMARY

GRENADA BECOMES INDEPENDENT WITHOUT INCIDENT; GAIRY DELIVERS INDEPENDENCE ADDRESS. OTHER GOVERNMENTS OBSERVE GRENADA'S INDEPENDENCE FEB 7. AMBASSADOR SCHEDULED RETURN BARBADOS THIS AFTERNOON. END SUMMARY. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 1. CEREMONIES MARKING GRENADA'S ATTAINMENT OF INDEPENDENCE JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT MORNING FEB 7 WENT OFF WITOUT INCIDENT, ALTHOUGH LACK OF POWER BECAUSE OF CONTINUED GENERAL STRIKE LIMITED SCOPE OF CEREMONIES, ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM GRENADA. IN POST INDEPENDENCE MIDNIGHT ADDRESS BROADCAST BY RADIO, PRIME MINISTER ERIC GAIRY DECLARED THAT WITH INDEPENDENCE NOW ACHIEVED IT WAS NOT RPT NOT TIME FOR RECRIMINATION AND REPRISAL BUT RATHER FOR RECONSTRUCTION. HE CALLED FOR NATIONAL UNITY AND SAID HE AWAITED RESPONSE FROM ALL SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY.
- 2. BARBADOS ANNOUNCED FEB 6 AT LAST MOMENT THAT IT WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES BY HOUSE OF ASSEMBLIES SPEAKER NEVILLE MAXWELL. ACCORDING TO PRESS JAMAICA WAS REPRESENTED BY SIR DUDLEY THOMPSON, PRESS ALSO CARRIES MESSAGE FROM PREMIER BRADSHAW OF ST KITTS TO GAIRY CONGRATULATING HIM AND PEOPLE OF GRENADA ON ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE WHICH HE HOPED "WILL SERVE TO REUNITE THE NATION AND GIVE IT A HAPPY ISSUE OUT OF ITS PRESENT AFFLICTION." BRADSHAW REGRETTED THAT IT WAS INCONVENIENT FOR ST KITTS TO BE REPRESENTED AT INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES SINCE "NOTIFICATION BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR KIND INVITATION...WAS ONLY RECEIVED FEB . 4." BARBADOS' ACTING PRIME MINISTER TALMA CABLED GAIRY BARBADOS' "WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS" AND HOPED THAT GRENADA WOULD "WORTHILY FULFILL ITS ROLE AS A MEMBER OF CARIBBEAN NATIONS." PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY ARNOLD SMITH ANNOUNCED THAT GRENADA HAD BEEN ACCEPTED AS THE COMMONWEALTH'S 34TH MEMBER.
- 3. AMBASSADOR, WHO HEADING U.S. DELEGATION TO GRENADA, IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE FOR BARBADOS AT 1500 HOURS TODAY FOLLOWING MORNING CEREMONIES AND PRIME MINISTER'S MID-DAY RECEPTION. DONOVAN

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Message Attributes

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GRENADA BECOMES INDEPENDENT

TAGS: PINT, GJ

To: SECSTATE WASHDC GEORGETOWN KINGSTON LONDON PANAMA PORT OF SPAIN CINCLANT FOR POLAD COMCARIBSEAFRON

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